



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Center for Quality Assurance and Control
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Circular Letter: DHCQ 06-7-463

TO: Hospital Chief Executive Officers

FROM: Paul I. Dreyer, Ph.D.

RE: Influenza Specialty Care Unit

DATE: July 14, 2006

As I am sure you are aware, the Department of Public Health has been working with hospitals and communities on Pandemic Preparedness Planning, and specifically on the development of Influenza Specialty Care Units (ISCUs). (Please see the attached document *Pandemic Planning/Hospital Influenza Specialty Care Units, amended July 13, 2006*). The Department has previously informed hospitals of its expectation that each hospital identify an ISCU site by June 30, 2006.

At this time the Department is collecting information about hospital progress in selecting ISCU sites and preparing for licensure of the sites. We have enclosed the following two documents to facilitate this process:

1. An *Emergency ISCU Site Data Form*. This form tracks hospital progress in identifying an ISCU site, and contains preliminary information about the site. Please complete and return this form to the Department by August 1, 2006.
2. An *Application for DPH Licensure Approval of Emergency ISCU site / ISCU Preparation Checklist*. This more detailed form must be completed and submitted to the Department no later than September 30, 2006.

Please note that any hospital that is prepared to submit a request for licensure of the site at this time may submit a completed Application for DPH Licensure Approval of the Emergency ISCU Site and ISCU Preparation Checklist, in lieu of the one page ISCU Site Data Form.

Again, please complete and return the *ISCU Site Data Form* or the *Application for Licensure of the ISCU site/ISCU Preparation Checklist* to the Department by August 1, 2006.

FAX the form or application to 617-753-8094, or mail to:

Dennis Corbett
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If you have any questions regarding this correspondence please contact Gail Palmeri at 617-753-8000 or email gail.palmeri@state.ma.us